

Leroy Ellis, U.S. Army; David Gibbons, U.S. Army; Larson Kalama, U.S. Army; Janice Smith, U.S. Army; and Michael Williams, U.S. Navy.

These 10 heroes join more than 98,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home states to Washington, D.C. to reflect at the memorials built in honor of our nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these soldiers, sailors, and Marines who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize and thank Michael Williams for his tireless work in organizing this group visit to Washington, D.C.

RECOGNIZING MR. JOE COX

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Joe Cox for his many years of dedication to the Los Banos Future Farmers of America (FFA) as they celebrate the 50th Anniversary of their win at the FFA Nationals Contest. His commitment to young participants of the FFA program as well as many other community activities, make Joe Cox most deserving of this honor.

Joe Cox was born in Booneville, Arkansas in 1925. During the Great Depression, his family—including his two sisters, parents and grandmother—decided to leave Arkansas. They traveled across the country for two years, camping along the way, until they made it to Reedley, California.

Once the family settled in Reedley, Joe was able to return to school. Joe's family moved around the Reedley area, wherever there was work for his father. During one year, his family moved eight times. Even though his life was at times unstable, he was inspired by his father's commitment to working hard and supporting his family. This lifestyle also sparked his devotion to his life in education and his empathy for students who had to overcome obstacles.

As Joe graduated high school and World War II ensued, Joe decided to enlist in the Navy. He was assigned to the radio operators training after just five weeks of basic training. After his education was complete, Joe volunteered to serve on submarines. Out of one hundred volunteers, Joe was chosen as one of five to attend submarine school. He was assigned to a tender ship, the U.S.S. *Orion*, and the U.S.S. *Battfish*, which patrolled off the coasts of Japan.

When the war was over and he was discharged, Joe joined his brother-in-law in the farming business. After farming for several years, Joe decided that he wanted to continue his education. He attended Reedley College and then California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly) in San Luis Obispo. Joe was in his first quarter at Cal Poly, when he was called to serve in the Korean War. After two

years, he was able to return to Cal Poly and complete his degree and teaching credential.

Joe began his teaching career as an Agriculture teacher with Los Banos High School in 1955. He went on to become the Agriculture Department Chair, which he turned into a highly respected program. In the spring of 1963, Joe coached the Los Banos High School FFA team to a first place finish at the state dairy judging contest, and then went on to win the National title in Waterloo, Iowa.

Joe continued to take summer classes to further his knowledge in the education field. He earned a master's degree in education from Cal Poly in 1957. Then in 1981, he earned his doctoral degree in education from the University of Southern California. Joe shifted his career into administration when he took the role of Assistant Principal at Los Banos High School in 1963 and Principal in 1969. One of Joe's assignments was to focus on adult education, which eventually led him to a position at the new Merced College Los Banos campus to run the evening programs. In 1982, he took the position of Principal at the junior high in Los Banos where he stayed until his retirement in 1988.

During his retirement, Joe has done more than many people do in a lifetime. He served for 12 years on the Los Banos Unified School Board. In addition, he served as President of the Los Banos Golden Agers, District Governor in Rotary, Chair of the California Seniors Legislature and most recently National President of the U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II. The City of Los Banos recently acknowledged his longtime service to the community by inducting him into the Los Banos High History-Society Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize the leadership and commitment Mr. Cox has shown to Los Banos and the Future Farmers of America. He personifies a man of principle and integrity. Joe Cox is a role model for all of us, and it is with great pride that I recognize him for everything he does for our community.

HAZLETON PATROLMAN ERNESTO "NESTY" VALENTE

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Hazleton, Pennsylvania Patrolman Ernesto "Nesty" Valente, who passed away on May 15, 1938, while serving in the line of duty.

Mr. Valente met his untimely death while escorting an automobile carrying John Sotack, age 8, through the congested city business district to the hospital. While attempting to ensure quick passage of the automobile through the intersection at Broad and Wyoming streets, Mr. Valente was propelled from the running board of the vehicle when the driver applied the brakes. Despite the best efforts of his fellow patrolman and medical professionals, he perished shortly after at the State Hospital.

At the time of his death, Mr. Valente was one of the oldest members of the Hazleton Police Department in the line of service, having been appointed on April 21, 1921. He was

considered to be an outstanding traffic officer and served the city of Hazleton with distinction. A husband and father of two daughters, Mr. Valente was also appointed as a member of the Lodge No. 18, Fraternal Order of Police and a member of the Most Precious Blood Church.

Mr. Speaker, for his dedication and sacrifice to keep the citizens of Hazleton, Pennsylvania safe, I commend Patrolman Ernesto "Nesty" Valente.

CONGRATULATING SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), Chapter 78, it is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I congratulate Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Merrillville, Indiana, as its members celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the parish. Father Ted Poteres, along with Parish Council President JoAnn Massow and the congregation, will commemorate this momentous milestone with a celebratory reception on Saturday, May 18, 2013, at the Saints Constantine and Helen Cultural Center in Merrillville, Indiana. Northwest Indiana is especially grateful for the unshakable faith, boundless wisdom, and exemplary service of Father Poteres, a truly outstanding religious leader. I also wish to acknowledge the presence of His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos and all the other committed religious leaders who have joined in this celebration.

The founding of Saints Constantine and Helen began when a group of immigrants joined together with the goal of preserving Greek culture and religious tradition for the many Greek families that were moving into the Northwest Indiana region. In 1913, the first worship services were held in a rented store building in Gary, Indiana, making Saints Constantine and Helen the first Greek church in the City of Gary. The name was chosen to signify the importance of Saint Constantine, the Roman emperor who, during the fourth century, permitted the freedom of practicing Christianity, as well as Saint Helen, Saint Constantine's mother, in their fight for the sustenance of their religious beliefs and Greek heritage. The church continued to gain support, and as a result of the congregation's dedicated and unwavering efforts, on Easter Sunday of 1919, Saints Constantine and Helen opened their first church building in Gary.

The church has continually been blessed with extraordinary religious leaders, none more exemplary than Father Ted. And we all recall the appointment of Father Evagoras Constantinides as pastor of Saints Helen and Constantine in 1969. Under his leadership, the Hellenic Cultural Center and the Saints Constantine and Helen Cathedral were constructed in Merrillville, Indiana. Father Ev served as pastor for 26 years and was held in the highest regard by church leaders internationally, by his congregation, and by the entire Northwest Indiana community. Father

Evagoras's passing at a time when we are celebrating the parish's 100th anniversary seems to me to be more than coincidental. I believe it evidences his knowledge that he could join our God firm in his absolute faith in Father Poteres's spiritual leadership, the Parish Council's commitment to future generations, and every parishioner's dedication to preserving their religious beliefs and the incomparable Hellenic culture and values we all hold so dear.

The leaders and parishioners of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church touch the lives of countless individuals through their compassionate service, especially to those most in need. Over the years, the church has come to the aid of so many people through the church's Helping Hand Fund, which provides financial assistance to those in need. The church also facilitates the Ross Township Food Pantry, which fed approximately 20,000 people during the last year.

Mr. Speaker, I am a strong advocate for the promotion of the ideals and morals of Hellenism throughout all of Northwest Indiana. I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church as the congregation celebrates its 100th anniversary. The church leaders and parishioners have dedicated themselves to upholding Greek Orthodox traditions and spiritual beliefs. For their commitment to service, and for touching the lives of countless individuals, they are worthy of the highest praise.

MEGAN RHOADS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Megan Rhoads for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Megan Rhoads is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Megan Rhoads is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Megan Rhoads for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA NUNN
MC CARTHY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman who has given of herself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, Barbara Nunn McCarthy was a community leader, making history as the first woman to serve on the Rockdale County Board of Commissioners; and

Whereas, she provided leadership and service to so many community institutions including the Rockdale United Way, the County Extension Service, the C. E. Steele Community Center, Rockdale Retired Educators Association, Habitat for Humanity, the Rockdale Coalition for Children and Families and the Conyers Rotary Club; and

Whereas, Mrs. McCarthy never asked for fame or fortune, nor found a job too small or too big; she gave of herself, her time and her many talents by demonstrating unwavering commitment to protecting and serving the citizens of Rockdale County; and

Whereas, she was a wife, a mother, a sister, an aunt, a teacher and a friend; she was also a woman of great integrity who throughout her life remained true to uplifting and serving; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Barbara Nunn McCarthy as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON do hereby attest to the 113th Congress that she is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor" by declaring Barbara Nunn McCarthy, U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 30th day of March, 2013.

IN CELEBRATION OF DABNEY N.
MONTGOMERY'S 90TH BIRTHDAY
"OUR NONAGENARIAN HERO"

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor, recognize, and celebrate the 90th Birthday of Mr. Dabney N. Montgomery, a member of the ground crew of the Tuskegee Airmen, who later served as a bodyguard for Martin Luther King during the historic 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama.

Dabney N. Montgomery was born in Selma, Alabama on April 18, 1923, to Dred and Lula Anderson Montgomery. Mr. Montgomery was drafted into the Army Air Corps (now the United States Air Force), during World War II and served in the 1051st Quartermaster Company of the 96th Air Service Group, attached to the 332nd Air Fighter Group, as a ground crewman with the Tuskegee Airmen in Southern Italy, from 1943 to 1945. He was awarded a Good Conduct Medal, the WWII Victory Medal, the European African Middle Eastern Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, a Service Award, the Honorable Service Medal, and a Basic Driver and Mechanic Medal. In 1946, he enrolled into Livingstone College, Salisbury, North Carolina, and received a B.A. degree in Religious Education, in May 1949. He served as a Charter Member of the Sphinx Club and was one of the first to be admitted into the Gamma Mu Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha [ΑΦΑ] Fraternity.

In June 1955, he joined Mother African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church (the oldest

Black Church in the State of New York, organized in 1796), Harlem, New York. He immediately began to serve as Sunday School Teacher and, in early 1970, was appointed Director of Youth (serving until 1999). In July 1996, he authored a Resolution to the General Conference of the A.M.E. Zion Church Denomination, proposing that 'The Day of Pentecost' be incorporated in their Book of Discipline. It now stands as a day of celebration throughout all A.M.E. Zion Churches.

He served and presently serves in many capacities such as General Chairperson of Mother Zion's Bicentennial Anniversary in October 1996, charter member of the past organization at 159 West 136th Street Parsonage Building Fund of Mother Zion, the W.H. & O.M.S where he served as member/chaplain, Class no. 4 member, Board of Stewards, Board of Directors of James Varick Community Center, and the Lay Council. He is Mother Zion's Church Historian and conducts church tours. In 1999, the Church was featured in a PBS documentary entitled, "A Walk through Harlem," hosted by Barry Lewis and David Hartman in which Mr. Montgomery cites the history of Mother Zion Church.

On Sunday, March 5, 2006, the men's committee bestowed upon him a double honor with the Paul Robeson Award of Excellence and with architectural plans for the future structure of the Church archives and museum to be named the Dabney N. Montgomery Art Gallery and Exhibition Hall. Mr. Montgomery was an activist in the course of the Civil Rights Movement and marched with the late Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. throughout the 50+ mile March from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, March 21-25, 1965. He served as one of Dr. King's bodyguards. On April 11, 2006, President George W. Bush signed a bill into law to award all original Tuskegee Airmen the 'United States Congressional Gold Medal of Honor,' it was awarded on Thursday, March 29, 2007, under the Capitol Dome here in Washington, D.C.

In December 2006, he was selected by the Livingstone College National Alumni Association to receive the prestigious Outstanding Alumni Award. It was presented on February 2, 2007 by the National Alumni Council of the United Negro College Fund in Nashville, Tennessee. On February 4, 2010, he was inducted into the United Negro College Fund "Share Your Love" and Service in Celebration of Livingstone College Leaders Hall of Fame. These distinguished awards recognize Alumni who have made significant contributions to their alma mater, community, and the United Negro College Fund.

On August 7, 2007, he was asked to serve as a member of The HistoryMakers, a Chicago-based organization that has the largest archival collection of both well-known and unsung African American HistoryMakers. Their purpose is to capture the stories of accomplished African Americans across all walks of life and to use video and new technologies to create an accessible digital collection to serve as a resource for students, teachers, scholars, documentary producers and the media. The HistoryMakers' stories are stories of success against the odds, of achievement in the face of adversity, and of inspiration. They are America's missing stories.

On Saturday, June 27, 2009 the Livingstone College National Alumni Association, Brooklyn, Queens and Long Island Chapter presented to